

**LUKAS, NACE, GUTIERREZ & SACHS**

**CHARTERED**

1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD

SUITE 1500

McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102

**DAVID A. LaFURIA**  
**(703) 584-8666**

June 28, 2005

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service**  
**CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Monday, June 27, 2005, Thomas Gutierrez and undersigned counsel, on behalf of Smith Bagley, Inc. and Highland Cellular Inc., met with Thomas Navin, Lisa Gelb, Narda Jones, Jeremy Marcus and Mark Seifert in the Wireline Competition Bureau. We urged near-term action on the application of Smith Bagley, Inc. to be an ETC on Navajo lands in Utah. We also urged the Commission to act on the waiver request filed by Highland Cellular to permit it to receive high-cost support for its operations in West Virginia.

We discussed the substantial health, safety, and economic development benefits that are today being realized in rural America with high-cost support, especially on reservation lands in Arizona and New Mexico. We urged the continuation of competitively neutral rules for all universal service providers. No materials were left behind at the meeting.

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If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. LaFuria", written in a cursive style.

David A. LaFuria

cc: Thomas Navin, Esq.  
Lisa Gelb, Esq.  
Narda Jones, Esq.  
Jeremy Marcus, Esq.  
Mark Seifert, Esq.